

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12
NEA-10 OIC-02 USIE-00 INRE-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01
ITC-01 SP-02 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 STR-07 TRSE-00
CEA-01 SS-15 INT-05 SSO-00 /131 W
-----114877 011324Z /46

O R 011254Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5088
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
INFO ALL OECD CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
USMISSION USUN
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMCONSUL PORT MORESBY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 03070

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, EMIN, UNCTAD, FR
SUBJ: UNCTAD: THIRD PREPARATORY MEETING ON COPPER,
GENEVA, JANUARY 30 - FEBRUARY 3

REF: STATE 022419

1. SUMMART: WE HAVE EXPLAINED U.S. POSITION AT
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CURRENT UNCTAD COPPER MEETING TO BOTH POLICY AND
WORKING LEVELS OF FOREIGN OFFICE. IN RESPONSE, FRENCH
SAY THEY HAVE EC SUPPORT FOR AN APPROACH TO THE COPPER
PROBLEM WHICH IS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENTLY NUANCED THAN OUR
OWN, BUT WHICH IS THE SAME IN ITS PRINCIPAL
OBJECTIVES. FRENCH POSITION, AS DESCRIBED TO US,
PARALLELS U.S. ONE BY SUPPORTING POSTPONEMENT OF

NEGOTIATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY AGREEMENT (ICA) UNTIL AFTER BOTH CREATION OF A PRODUCER-CONSUMER FORUM (PCF) AND THEN COMPLETION OF A THOROUGH ANALYSIS OF POSSIBLE WAYS TO STABILIZE THE WORLD COPPER MARKET. END SUMMARY.

2. IN THE COURSE OF A GENERAL DISCUSSION JANUARY 30, THE EMBASSY'S ECONOMIC MINISTER CONVEYED THE POSITION IN REFTEL TO FROMENT-MEURICE, DIRECTOR, ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. WHILE NOT PERSONALLY FAMILIAR WITH THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ON THIS SUBJECT, HE TOOK CAREFUL NOTE OF OUR POINTS AND SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO THE MATTER.

3. ALSO ON JANUARY 30, WE MADE A SEPARATE APPROACH TO BERNARD MIYET, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR UNCTAD IN THE QUAI'S DIRECTORATE FOR U.N. AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS. RESPONDING TO THE FIVE PRINCIPAL POINTS OF THE U.S. POSITION (REFTEL, PARA 6) MIYET SAID FRANCE, WITH THE SUPPORT OF ITS EC PARTNERS, HAD DEVISED AN APPROACH TO THIS WEEK'S COPPER MEETING IN GENEVA WHICH ATTACKED THE PROBLEM MUCH IN THE SAME MANNER AS HAD THE U.S. IN FACT, HE SAID, HE PERCEIVED AN IDENTITY OF FRENCH VIEWS WITH THOSE PRESENTED IN THE FIRST FOUR U.S. POINTS, VIZ: (1) SUPPORT OF CONTINUED SEARCH FOR STABILIZATION MEASURES; LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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(2) APPROVAL OF UNCTAD MARKET ANALYSIS WORK DONE THUS FAR; (3) DOUBT THAT THIS WORK YET PERMITS US TO PROCEED TO A NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE; AND (4) DESIRE TO SEE MORE PRICE AND BUFFER STOCK RESEARCH.

4. REGARDING THE LAST-LISTED ELEMENT OF THE U.S. POSITION -- THE PCF -- MIYET ALSO FELT THERE WAS ESSENTIAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN US. HE STRESSED, HOWEVER,

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THAT FRANCE WAS READY "IMMEDIATELY" TO BEGIN DIRECT
NEGOTIATIONS "ASSEZ FORMELLE" FOR CREATION OF A PCF
AND THAT AN OFFER TO DO THIS CONSTITUTED THE PRIMARY
POINT OF FRENCH/EC POSITION AT THE GENEVA MEETING. HE
HOPED THAT IF THERE WERE ANY DIFFERENCES OF VIEW AMONG
GROUP B MEMBERS ON THE TIMING OF PCF NEGOTIATIONS,
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THESE COULD BE WORKED OUT QUICKLY.

5. MIYET DESCRIBED EACH OF TWO SUBSEQUENT POINTS OF
THE FRENCH/EC POSITION AS PREDICATED UPON SUCCESSFUL
COMPLETION OF ALL PRIOR STEPS. THESE ARE: (2) TO
AGREE UPON PROPER MEASURES FOR GAUGING THE STABILITY
AND FUTURE POTENTIAL OF THE WORLD COPPER MARKET; AND
FINALLY (3) "WHEN CONDITIONS BECOME FAVORABLE" TO
PREPARE A CONFERENCE AIMED AT NEGOTIATING AN ICA FOR
COPPER. MIYET SAID THIS SCENARIO HAS ALREADY BEEN
BROACHED TO SADLI AND GUERONIK OF CIPEC AND THAT THEY

HAD REACTED FAVORABLY.

6. ON BUFFER STOCKS SPECIFICALLY, MIYET SAID GOF AND OTHER EC PARTNERS WERE NOT CONVINCED BY RESULTS OF THE CHARLES RIVERS' STUDY. HE SAID THEY PLANNED TO CHALLENGE RIVERS' DATA WITH THEIR OWN STUDY ON BUFFER STOCK COSTS AND EFFECTS OF PRODUCTION CONTROLS. FRANCE, HE ADDED, CONTINUES TO FAVOR INTERNATIONAL BUFFER STOCKS OVER COORDINATED NATIONAL STOCKS. (COMMENT: FRANCE'S STOCKPILE PROGRAM FOR METALS IS NOT IN AS GOOD SHAPE AS IS ITS STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE PROGRAM.)

7. REFTTEL ARRIVED IN PARIS TOO LATE FOR US TO APPROACH FRENCH REP JEAN-PAUL VAUTREY, WHO HAD ALREADY DEPARTED FOR GENEVA. HOWEVER, MIYET CONFIRMED THAT QUAI WOULD TRANSMIT DETAILS OF U.S. POSITION TO HIM IMMEDIATELY.
HARTMAN

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TAGS: ETRD, EMIN, FR, US, UNCTAD
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